

LEATHER CARE

FOR YOUR LEATHER GOODS

Leather is known for its raw beauty and toughness. For thousands of years, it has been a staple medium for a variety of useful common wares. It is a natural and real material that human beings are drawn to. It seasons with use, aging gracefully as time passes. Often leather goods are passed down as heirloom treasures. Genuine leather requires genuine care and routine maintenance. Of course, the level of involved maintenance will depend on multiple factors. Frequent use will result in scratches, blemishes, and natural wear and tear. Some may prefer this “broken-in” appearance, while others may desire a more polished look. Local climate may also determine the need for extra care. Just keep in mind, when leather is left neglected, it can dry, crack, warp, or stain. Here are some tips to keep your leather goods healthy to stand the test of time.

POLISHING Leather polishes are mostly used for aesthetic purposes. A fine polish and buff can give your leather goods a fresh shine. Polishing is the least vital to contributing to the overall health of your leather.

CONDITIONING Conditioners are used to moisturize your leather preventing drying and cracking. Gently rub conditioner into the hide adding longer life to your leather. Just like skin soaking up lotion, the leather absorbs the conditioner. Conditioning is commonly done every 3 months, though twice a year can suffice.

WATERPROOFING If your leather will be exposed to the elements often and you want the added protection and ability to repel water, you can apply a waterproofing paste wax. (Sprays are not recommended). Apply as needed.

CLEANING Wiping your leather down with a damp cloth to remove dust and dirt can significantly help reduce premature wear and tear. Use of saddle soap can aid in removing embedded dirt and grime. It may require extra elbow-grease but produces a smooth, soft lustre.

***RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS:** Neats Foot Oil, Mink Oil Paste, Saddle Soap

